

The Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) is:

- ***an efficient retail business,***
offering over 2,000 alcoholic beverage products in more than 320 stores;
- ***a major source of revenue for the Commonwealth,***
contributing to Virginia, over one billion dollars in the last five years;
- ***a public safety agency with law enforcement responsibilities,***
enforcing criminal and ABC laws in more than 14,000 licensed establishments;
- ***an administrative hearing agency,***
resulting in dismissal, fines, suspension or revocation of a license; and
- ***a provider of educational and prevention programs,***
implementing education initiatives, prevention and compliance training.



ABC: Celebrating Excellence Since 1934

The Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control was created under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, Chapter 94 of Acts of Assembly, Session of 1934, and subject to amendments thereto. The first ABC store was opened in 1934. In 1936, the General Assembly granted full police powers to the agency's designated agents so that they might take more responsibility for enforcing the laws against bootlegging and moonshining.



Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC)
Providing effective public safety, excellent customer service
and a reliable source of revenue for citizens since 1934.